

Minutes of the Health & Human Services Committee - October 16, 2003

Chair Herro called the meeting to order at 1:12 p.m.

Present: Supervisors Ken Herro (Chair), Mareth Kipp, Paul Pronold, Carl Seitz, Alicia Silva (arrived at 1:15 p.m.) and Sandra Wolff (arrived at 1:17 p.m.); **Absent:** James Jeskewitz

Staff Present: County Board Chief of Staff Lee Esler, Legis.Associate Sandra Meisenheimer, Office Services Coordinator Windy Jicha.

Also Present: Senior Services Director Cathy Bellovary, Program and Projects Analyst Barb Woyak, Deputy Health & HS Director Ernie Messinger, Administrative Services Mgr. Russ Kutz, Long Term Care Division Mgr. Jack Bodien, Children and Family Division Mgr. Jesus Mireles, Principal Systems Analyst Ann Christman, Cheryl Marek Domrose of Wis. Department of Health & Family Services–Southeast Regional Office, County Executive Chief of Staff Allison Bussler.

Correspondence

Esler referred to a letter dated 10/7/03 from the State Department of Corrections regarding an Invitation to Juvenile Corrections Listening Sessions to be held at the end of 2003: November 3-Madison, Nov. 7 – Eau Claire, Nov. 18 - Appleton, Nov. 25 – Milwaukee and Dec. 5 – Rhinelander.

Future Agenda Item

Tour of the Caring Place – next meeting on October 30, 2004.

Executive Committee Report

Herro reported that the non-departmental, UW-EX and Federated Library budgets were discussed and voted on. There also was a discussion with Jim Malueg regarding the Countywide Haz-Mat Response Team. Esler said the Pavelko/Singert freeze resolution was also on the agenda.

Discuss and Consider the 2004 County Aging Unit Plan Amendment

Bellovary and Woyak were present. Bellovary referred to the Aging Unit Plan for Older People 2003-2005, which is a three-year plan. This is the 2004 Amendment and was compiled by Woyak. Bellovary said this is submitted to the state and doesn't match the county budget which is confusing.

Woyak covered the following areas of the handout as the committee asked questions: Section 11-B: Title IIIB Supportive Service Budget (total budget of \$678,156; Section 11-C1: Title III-C1 Congregate Meals Budget (total budget of \$615,108); Section 11-C2: Title III-C2 Home Delivered Meals Budget (total budget of \$738,194); Section 11-D: Title III-D Disease Prevention and Health Promotion Services Budget (total budget of \$13,266); Section 11-E: III-E Family Caregiver Support Program Budget (total budget of \$155,626); Section 11-BS: State Elderly Benefit Services Budget (total budget of \$37,403); Section 11-SCS: State Senior Community Services Budget (total budget of \$16,079); Section 11-O: Other Budget – shows all other funds in Senior Services (total budget of \$1,257,769); and Section 11-Sum: Summary Budget – a summation of all the previous budgets discussed (total budget of \$3,587,138).

Motion: Kipp moved, second by Wolff, to approve the 2004 Waukesha County Aging Unit Plan for Older People, 2004 Amendment. **Motion carried 6 – 0.**

Discuss and Consider the Contract Procurement Award for Health Cost Sharing and Chore

Bellovary and Woyak present. Woyak stated there are two proposed contract awards. Most of their services are contracted through a variety of available providers. Both of these contracts are for two-year periods.

Woyak said this contract was awarded to Interfaith Caregiving Network Inc. in the amount of \$14,300. Five organizations received copies of the RFP with one proposal being returned and evaluated.

Motion: Wolff moved, second by Pronold, to approve the contract procurement process for chore services. **Motion carried 6 – 0.**

Woyak said this contract was awarded to St. Joseph's Medical and Dental Clinic in the amount of \$32,800. Five organizations received copies of the RFP with one proposal being returned and evaluated.

Motion: Kip moved, second by Wolff, to approve the contract procurement process for health cost sharing services. **Motion carried 6 – 0.**

Discuss and Consider Ordinance 158-O-091: Appropriate Medical Assistance Waiver Funding for the Department of Health and Human Services

Messinger and Kutz present. Messinger said this the first in a series of ordinances that will be brought to the committee to help put monies back into the account through amendments.

Kutz explained the ordinance, which appropriates \$1,188,067 in federal/state medical assistance waiver funds available through the State of Wisconsin to purchase community-based care and services for frail elderly and persons with physical and developmental disabilities within the Health and Human Services 2003 Long Term Care budget. This year's funding appropriations are to cover full year continuation of base budget expenditures started for this client group in 2002. It also will provide for increasing service needs for many of the existing clients to remain in their home or community placement and recognizing a higher overall average cost per day for purchased services. Due to the recent state notification of funding availability and receipt of these funds, the 2003 budget did not include this appropriation of \$1.188 million.

Herro asked what happened statewide? Did all counties get additional increases? Mireles said yes. There was a formula that was used and based on populations. Bodien said for the elderly it was based on population and size of the waiting list. Bodien said Waukesha County did get a little more than other counties of comparable size because we use community aids more aggressively in matching of federal dollars. This is seen as a positive thing at the state.

Motion: Seitz moved, second by Pronold, to approve Ordinance 158-O-091. **Motion carried 6 – 0.**

Discuss and Consider Resolution 158-R-010: Support the Department of Health and Human Services Participation in Coordinating the Intensive and Post Intensive Autism Treatment Services Portion of the Home and Community-Based Services Waivers for Children as Proposed by the Department of Health and Family Services

Messinger, Bodien and Mireles were present. This resolution is to support the county Health and Human Services Department's participation in the Intensive and Post Intensive Autism Treatment Services of the Home and Community-Based Services Waivers for children as proposed by the State of Wisconsin Department of Health and Family Services. Health and Human Services Department staff indicate that contracted waiver funded autism services are estimated to increase the 2004 expenditure and revenue budget by approximately \$2.5 million and will provide services for approximately 100 children.

Herro asked in Waukesha County how many children with autism are on Title 19? Bodien said 107. Messinger said the State is asking the counties to participate in this program and if we don't they have the option of contracting. Messinger said they don't believe that contracting would be the best approach for Waukesha County because the 107 kids for the most part are not in our system. It would be an expanded service population that would be extremely expensive if we're not successful in keeping them in their own

homes. Autistic kids are very challenging and if they end up in a care system, such as the Oconomowoc Developmental Training Center, it would cost \$8,000 per month or close to \$100,000 per year for each individual. Messinger said it is in the county's best interest that this population is managed and that we provide supportive services to those families so the children do not end up outside the home.

Messinger said if we find we cannot manage the program within the funds that the state had made available, we could give 60 days notice and turn it back to the state. The state would then contract it out to a private provider. Bodien said the waiver covers children from 0-22 years of age; however, for the intensive in-home autism piece of the service, it has to begin before the eighth birthday and a maximum of three years in the intensive piece at a cost of \$96 a day on an average is allowed. This is what the state would reimburse the county. After the intensive in-home, they move to the transitional or on-going waiver slot, which is \$30.60 a day until the age of 22. At 22 they would transfer to an adult care facility.

Esler asked are the other 71 counties in the state receptive or are they all going the county route? Domrose (from the state) replied that it varies by region. In the southeast region, it looks to be about a 50/50 split. Some are saying yes, several are saying they will wait and see (Racine), and two (Washington and Ozaukee) said adamantly no.

Mireles said if we don't take this on, we're looking at a potential placement and a long-term foster care commitment. The positive is if we meet the families, develop a relationship, and provide the support, we have the opportunity to intervene and reinforce parental responsibility.

Esler said there are eleven certified providers in the state of which five provide service in Waukesha County. He asked what is the advantage of the county contracting with the providers rather than the state? Also, if the feds were able to contract with these providers directly, wouldn't they be able to cut out the state's retainage? Specifically, Esler asked what percentage the county retains? Domrose said 7%. Esler said this would not be acceptable to private sector contractors if the state contracts with them rather than the county. He asked if the 7% was negotiable? Domrose said that was all that the state was offering. Does the state retain any part of the federal funds? Domrose said no. She stated the feds did not contract with the providers. They were Medicare certified, and they billed Medicare.

Motion: Kipp moved, second by Seitz, to approve Resolution 158-R-010.

Herro asked Mireles, what are your concerns? Mireles said the potential for out-of-home placement and the risk of some of these children with the significant reduction from the intensive to the on going. How the parents will handle the stress of caring for an autistic child and being able to intervene early on to help reduce the likelihood of request for out-of-home placement. **Motion carried 6 – 0.**

Public Comment

Allison Bussler introduced herself as the new County Executive Chief of Staff.

Discuss and Review Update on Health and Human Services Computer Systems

Messinger and Christen were present to discuss the Health and Human Services computer systems. A handout was distributed to the committee and discussed. Messinger gave historical data on the computer systems in the department. They began implementing computer systems in 1990. The projects and budgets have grown significantly since that time. The number of departmental staff has decreased from 430 to 380 due to the introduction of computers. Most of these staff reductions have been in clerical positions. The Health and Human Services Department has more than one third of all county owned computer devices.

Christen reviewed the handout. The first part of the handout outlined the major information systems in the Department of Health and Human Services. These systems include PeopleLink, Avatar PM, SPHERE, Daisy, WIR, WiSACWIS, CARES, KIDS, Special Living Fund and Avatar CWS. PeopleLink is a system built in-house and does client/case tracking, client-specific accounts payable and state reporting. The state has complimented the county on reporting with high levels of accuracy. A piece of Avatar PM went live last Monday. This system was forced to be up and running because of HIPAA requirements.

Esler asked why the BAS system could not be used in the department for clients accounts payable? Christen said they've analyzed the system and came to the conclusion that it would not fit their needs because it does not link clients with vendors. When application development came on board in Information Systems, they reviewed the system and determined the same outcome.

Christen said SPHERE went live last week. It is being developed for use with case management and possible accounts payable tasks. Special Living Fund is used to manage bills and financial responsibilities of clients. Christen said there are approximately 40 other significant data collection applications, primarily Microsoft Access databases that are supported by Health and Human Services staff. This does not include databases created by fiscal and program staff for individual purposes. As new global systems are put into place, the databases are incorporated and archived. This results in less maintenance and better data and security.

Christen reviewed the Current Major Projects and PeopleLink 2003 Client/Case Statistics as of 10/16/2003 sections of the handout. She outlined the differences between case tracking systems, service tracking systems and case management systems. The new Avatar CWS system is needed to fill the gaps for work that is currently done on paper. Messenger said the goal is to get paid appropriately for all services rendered. Christen said this product has been on the market since 1997 under a different name – BEHS. Avatar is a newer product that is Web-based with 26 states currently using the technology. She said part of the problem in developing a new system for the entire department is that many times the county can get money from the federal or state governments to build a system for only one program.

Supervisor Seitz left the meeting at 4:30 p.m.

Discuss Final 2004 Budget Amendments for which the Committee has Budget Oversight

There were no additional amendments for this committee to review. Messenger said that he would like support from the committee in regards to the Account Clerk position that was defeated in the Personnel Committee.

Tour the Health and Human Services Facility

The committee did not tour the Health and Human Services Facility due to timing issues.

Motion to adjourn: Kipp moved, Silva second, to adjourn the meeting at 4:45 p.m. **Motion carried:** 6 – 0.

Respectfully submitted,

Alicia Silva
Secretary